

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS  
1420 EAST SIXTH AVE  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620  
(406) 444-2452

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST**

Zoo Application

### **PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION**

Project Title: Wolf Keep Wildlife Sanctuary (non-profit zoo)

Application Date: May 5, 2003

Name, Address and Phone Number: Carl Bock 23545 Highway 200 E. Bonner, MT  
406-244-5207

Location: T13N R16W S6

Description of Project: This project is for a wolf education facility that will be open for public exhibition of wolves in a non-profit status. The facility will cover approximately 9 acres of land. The facility is double fenced with 8' woven wire. There is a three foot separation between the perimeter and interior fence. The bottom of the interior fence is cemented in concrete 3' thick with a 5' woven wire buried horizontally under the concrete to prevent animals from digging in or out. The facility is separated into 12 separate pen areas. The pens vary in size from approximately 3.5 acres to smaller handling pens completely enclosed in woven wire and concrete. There is a separate quarantine area away from the rest of the pens. The facility is equipped with the appropriate tranquilization equipment and a net gun for emergency purposes. The facility has a fully enclosed animal handling cart to transfer any sick or injured animal.

Access to the interior is restricted to fully enclosed double gated access points. The gates on all interior and perimeter access points have manual locking devices installed. The public will not be allowed to have direct contact with the captive wolves.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

United States Department of Agriculture (Animal Welfare)  
(issuers of class C exhibitor's license)

## **PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources.				X		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats.				X		
3. Introduction of new species into an area.			X		YES	SEE BELOW
4. Vegetation covers, quantity and quality.				X		
5. Water quality, quantity and distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
6. Existing water right or reservation.				X		
7. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture.				X		
8. Air quality or objectionable odors.			X		YES	SEE BELOW
9. Historical and archaeological sites.				X		
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy.				X		
11. Aesthetics				X		

### **Comments:**

(A description of potentially significant or unknown impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

3. Wild wolves may occasionally pass through this area so these captive wolves are most likely not considered a new species. The captive wolves are confined in such a manner that their escape and resulting introduction into the area is extremely unlikely.
8. There is potential for a minor impact from objectionable odors from fecal material and left over food. Size of the facility (9 acres) and the number of wolves anticipated to be held at the facility should mitigate that possibility. In addition, applicants have indicated that they will pick up fecal material on a regular basis to prevent the generation of odors.

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment:

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Social structures and cultural diversity.				X		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat.				X		
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue.				X		
4. Agricultural production.				X		
5. Human health.				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and person income.				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational activities.				X		
8. Locally adopted environmental plans and goals (ordinances).				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing.				X		
10. Demands for government services.			X			
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity.				X		

**Comments :**

(A description of potentially significant or unknown impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

10. Increase in demand for service by FWP due to license review and inspections.

Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects, which are uncertain but extremely harmful, if they were to occur? There are no potential or adverse effects that would pose any significant impact on the environment.

Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant? There are no potential or adverse effects that would pose any significant impact.

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

There are no reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Do not issue the license would be the no action alternative.

List proposed mitigate measures (stipulations) for license:  
none

Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on this EA:

EA prepared by: DOUGLAS E. JOHNSON

Date completed: June 4, 2003

### **PART 3. DECISION**

Recommendation and justification concerning preparation of IS:

No EIS is needed for this project.

Describe public involvement, if any:

The EA has been posted on the FWP web site ([fwp.state.mt.us](http://fwp.state.mt.us)) and open for public comment from June 10, 2003 until June 28, 2003. Comments may be e-mailed to [djohnson@cbernet1.com](mailto:djohnson@cbernet1.com) or may be mailed to:

Warden Doug Johnson  
FWP Region 2  
3201 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, Mt. 59804

Recommendation for license approval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wildlife Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Warden Captain

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date